

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29364 / S1274

This legislation would direct the Secretary of State to order a postelection audit of certain election results after a general or primary election, using procedures he would be required to provide to county clerks at least 60 days prior to the election. Conducting such an audit would increase public confidence in election results by checking the paper ballots, which exist for each and every vote cast in Idaho, against the election results that the counties tabulate and report for the audited precincts. Audit findings could result in the Secretary of State ordering the audit of additional ballots.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation requires the Secretary of State to pay the cost of the postelection audit, including reimbursing the county clerk for any costs incurred by the clerk in assisting in such an audit. These costs would be unlikely to exceed \$50,000 in statewide costs per primary and general election, unless additional audits were needed based on postelection audit findings. Since the primary and general election occur in different fiscal years, this would make for a cost of \$50,000 per fiscal year, except for fiscal years in which both a presidential and a regular state primary are held, which would result in a cost of up to \$100,000 every fourth year, starting with FY24.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).